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POST WAR FLEET ORGANIZATION

1. Purpose

To establish a Fleet Organization which will provide for:

- {a} Clearly defined command relationships
- {b} Administration
- {c} Training

which will form a basis for:

- (a) Assignment of Vessels and Aircraft in the Sea Going Forces of the U. S. Navy
- (b) Assignment of personnel

and which will facilitate:

- (a) Continuity of operations during current period of contraction
- (b) Rapid expansion in case of recurring national emergency.

2. Based on:

- (a) Post War Plan No. 1.
- (b) Demobilization schedules
- (c) Report of board on Post War flag billets
- (d) Base requirements
- (e) Discussions with Assistant Chiefs of Staff and Logistic Plans Officer.

3. Assumptions:

- (a) Duties of CominCh and CNO will be concentrated in CNO
- (b) Air components will not be transferred to a separate Air Force
- (c) Outlying bases will be substantially in accord with Post War Plan No. 1; there will be no "fixed installations" on Asiatic mainland.

4. Discussion:

- (a) The proposed organization consists of the Atlantic Fleet, the Pacific Fleet, the Sea Frontiers,

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Detached Forces directly under CNO, and Special and District Craft. The relationship of the NTS and NATS to the fleets is indicated.

(b) Each major fleet includes Area (Base) commands, an Active Fleet, a Reserve Fleet, and a Training Command. The Development Command is attached to the Atlantic Fleet.

(c) Area Commands

(1) In the Pacific, must be continued, at least until the occupation is complete and functioning smoothly. While provision is made for an Asiatic mainland sub-area, it is to be noted that no fixed shore installations are contemplated. Fleet components in such a sub-area should be completely self-contained and self-supporting afloat; that is, they should be tactical offshoots of the major area command. Revision to pre-war designation of an Asiatic Fleet, distinct from the Pacific Fleet, could be accomplished by splitting off all or an appropriate part of the West Pacific Force. Should this eventuate, the Asiatic Fleet should not contain a Reserve Fleet, its major components should be supplied from the Pacific Fleet on a rotational basis, and its Training Command should consist primarily of mobile units attached from the Pacific Fleet.

(2) In the Atlantic, area commands have already been dissolved and replaced or in process of replacement by a system of bases. In the accompanying diagram, bases are grouped geographically for convenience only and not to represent a chain of command. This is further discussed under Sea Frontiers.

(d) Active Fleets

(1) Administrative organization is based on type commands, which is believed to be essential for economy and rapid expansion. The war organization was a hybrid, with Air, Submarine and Amphibious types in character throughout, while other types,

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notably destroyers, first abandoned then reinstated type control. In reviving general application of type commands, certain modifications of type functions will be in order, and delineating addition to Navy Regulations required.

- (2) The accompanying diagram does not attempt to show the extent and diversity of liaison which must be defined and established for the type commands within the Active Fleets and externally with the Reserve Fleet and Training Command.

(e) Reserve Fleets

- (1) Administrative organization is based throughout on Group commands, required by physical contiguity. Subparagraph (d)(2) applies.
- (2) While not covered in Post War Plan No. 1, it is believed that a Reserve Group for DE, PG, LST and below might be established in the Philippine Sea Frontier to cover possible post-war transfers to Filipino or other Far Eastern governments and rotation in active service.

(f) Training Command

- (1) Concept of training is that it divides naturally into three phases: Ship, Type and Task; that the Training Command should control the individual from recruit and basic school through pre-commissioning and the ship from building or shipyard through shakedown or refresher. Team training of special kinds, such as C.I.C. teams, should be provided. Mobile training groups should be maintained in forward areas. A director and faculty for underway Reserve training and/or V.M.T. should form a part of the Training Command.

(g) Development Command

- (1) Attached to Atlantic Fleet for administration and ordinary logistic supply, directly under CNO for technical control.

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- (2) Units attached should be special craft of only experimental value and Active Fleet units, as required, on a temporary or rotational basis.

(h) Sea Frontiers

- (1) In war evolution, certain sea frontiers acquired different characters and several interlocking command relationships resulted. Some of these are tentatively perpetuated in the proposed post war set-up. In other cases, peace has reduced functions to minimum shipping control and air-sea rescue activities. To provide for rapid expansion it is believed the Sea Frontier commands should be kept alive. To develop a clean-cut relationship between Sea Frontier and Fleet it is recommended that consideration be given to assigning naval base supervisory control within appropriate geographical limits to the Sea Frontier Commanders. Such an arrangement is not shown in the accompanying diagram, but is being worked up for later presentation.

(1) Task Organization

- (1) It has been assumed throughout the foregoing that task organizations will be, in fact, temporary organizations set up to perform particular tasks and dissolved when assigned tasks are completed; that the major fleet commanders will retain the prerogative of organizing their fleets for the tasks in hand; and that numbered fleets will disappear.
- (2) To minimize the growing pains attending transition from a purely peacetime organization to an operating war organization, it is considered desirable that two task force commanders, with appropriate staffs, be attached to each Atlantic and Pacific Fleets, with primary peacetime duty in connection with planning and carrying out task force training under direct control of the major fleet commander as chief umpire.